

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1131  
By Casada

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Page High School Varsity Chess Team on its fourth-place finish at the National High School Chess Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that members of this General Assembly should salute those young people who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment have achieved excellence; and

WHEREAS, one such group of young people is the Page High School Varsity Chess Team, which brought honor to themselves and their state by placing fourth in the Open Division at the National High School Chess Championship; and

WHEREAS, the team from Rudderville, Tennessee, traveled to Dallas, Texas, to compete for this prestigious title on April 15th-18th, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the team bested many other higher-rated teams to capture this remarkable finish; and

WHEREAS, the toughest scholastic tournament in the United States, the National High School Chess Championship attracts the top teams and individuals in the nation because of the type of game it offers; it is a four-hour game, allowing only two hours for each contestant to contemplate his moves and finish the game; and

WHEREAS, many of the schools at the competition include chess in their curriculum, adding to the impressiveness of Page High School's feat; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis team, which Page High School barely edged out to win the state title, finished 20th in the nation; this indicated the tremendous level of competition at the tournament and the magnitude of Page High School's accomplishment; and

WHEREAS, an achievement that few thought possible, the members of the Page High School team defied the odds and exceeded all expectations; and

WHEREAS, the members of this team include Jace Allison, Dan Rose, Will Garnette, and David Justice; and

WHEREAS, the team was skillfully led and coached by Dr. Scott Eddins, Joe Le Tate, and National Chess Master Mark Ishee; and

WHEREAS, the team's long hours of diligent practice, untiring commitment of time and talent, and steady composure during competition were justly rewarded with this remarkable feat; and

WHEREAS, the many accomplishments of this team are sources of tremendous pride for the team's families, schools, and communities; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and congratulate these exemplary citizens on their outstanding accolades; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the members of the Page High School Varsity Chess Team on their fourth-place finish at the 2004 National High School Chess Championship and extend to each of the members of this select group our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.